

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Shougo SATO et al.

Group Art Unit: 2852

Application No.: 10/782,973

Examiner: H. NGO

Filed: February 23, 2004

Docket No.: 118785

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND PHOTORECEPTOR CARTRIDGE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance, or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action), but before payment of the Issue Fee. The fees associated with this filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) are being paid electronically with this filing. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 15-0461.
- ☒ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.  
37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ 2. One or more reference cited herein was cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign Office Action is attached for the Examiner's information. See References 2-4.
- ☒ 3. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

- ☒ 4. An English language Abstract of one or more non-English language reference is attached hereto. See References 2-4.
- ☒ 5. A computer-generated English language translation of one or more Japanese Patent Publication cited herein has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 2-4.
- ☒ 6. Reference 1 corresponds to reference 3.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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JAO:SMS/sxb

Date: August 18, 2006

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<p><b>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION</b> Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 1/06)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 118785		APPLICATION NO. 10/782,973	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S) Shougo SATO et al.			
				FILING DATE February 23, 2004		GROUP 2852	

  

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Name
	1	6,453,135 B1	09/17/2002	SAMESHIMA ET AL.

  

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Country	With English Abstract	With English Translation
	2	JP-A-2001-34021	02/09/2001	JAPAN	X	X
	3	JP-A-2001-142378	05/25/2001	JAPAN	X	X
	4	JP-A-2002-72618	03/12/2002	JAPAN	X	X

  

OTHER DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

  

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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Examiner:	Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.
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Date: August 18, 2006

Reference Number: No.2002-0948  
Dispatch Number: No.280359  
Dispatch Date: July 4, 2006

Notification of Reason for Refusal

Patent Application Number: Patent Application No.2003-074072  
Drafting Date: June 27, 2006  
Examiner of JPO: IZUMI, Takuya 2908 2C00  
Representative/Applicant: Mr. OKAMOTO, Hiroyuki (and other 1)  
Applied Provision: Patent Law Section 29(2)

<<<<Final>>>>

This application should be refused for the reason mentioned below. If the applicant has any argument against the reason, such argument should be submitted within 60 days from the date on which this notification was dispatched.

Reasons

The inventions in the claims listed below of the subject application should not be granted a patent under the provision of Patent Law Section 29(2), since the inventions could have easily been made by persons who have common knowledge in the technical field to which the inventions pertain, on the basis of the inventions described in the publications listed below which were distributed in Japan or foreign countries prior to the filing of the subject application, or available to the public through electric communicating circuits.

Note (With respect to cited documents, refer to the list of the cited documents.)

Claims 1 to 12  
Cited documents 1 to 10

Remark:

It is described in the cited documents 1 to 4 to provide a transferring belt for transferring a developer carried by each of the image carriers to a medium to be transferred, and a switching member which supports the transferring belt and turns around a hinge in opening and closing manners with respect to an image forming device element, and to form an opening port wherein, when the switching member closes, the transferring belt contacts each of the image carriers, and when the switching member moves from closing to opening, the transferring belt moves together with the switching member, whereby the opening port exposes each of developing parts and each of the image carriers in their leaving directions.

The cited documents 7 and 8 describe that the developing part and the image carrier are detachably independent, and one of them is detachable with respect to the image forming device element, regardless of whether or not other attaches to the image forming device element. The cited document 10 describes the positioning member being at the innermost place of a guide part and composed of an urging means for positioning the image carrier.

The list of cited documents

1. JP-A-2001-034021
2. JP-A-2001-142378
3. JP-A-2002-072618
4. JP-A-10-307439
5. JP-A-10-186851
6. JP-A-2001-255806
7. JP-A-08-137366
8. JP-A-08-137367
9. JP-A-08-015948
10. JP-A-07-295315

Reasons that this is final notification of reasons for refusal.

This notification is one which notifies only the reasons for refusal which are necessitated by amendments made in response to a previous non-final notification of reasons for refusal.

If you wish to inquire about the rejecting reason, or you wish personal interview with the Examiner, please contact the under mentioned.

The Examination 1st Section of JPO  
Business Machinery: IZUMI, Takuya  
Tel: 03(3581) 1101 Ex.: 3221